

TWO CASES IN WHICH RÄHLMANN'S HYPERBOLIC LENSES IMPROVED VISION.

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CASE I.—Mr. —, aged twenty years, law-student, has noticed lately he does not see as well as formerly. Has without glasses vision $\frac{1}{4}\frac{2}{3}$. The corneæ look somewhat prominent, and when examined with the ophthalmoscopic mirror at a distance of some inches they appear, with slight movements of the mirror, to be irregularly shaded. The corneal images are irregular.

I regarded the case as one of slightly developed conical corneæ, with irregular astigmatism.

1875, July 2.—I prescribed convex cyls. R. $+1\frac{1}{8}$ c axis 180° . L. $+1\frac{1}{2}$ c axis 180° . Each eye with its glass had vision $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{3}$, and without any glass $\frac{1}{4}\frac{2}{3}$.

These glasses were tested several times subsequently without finding any spherico-cylinders materially better; although they did not help for reading, but only for distance, and this especially in the evening by artificial light.

In 1877, I also prescribed some concave cyls. for reading, which seemed at the time to help, although not corresponding in position of axes with the convex cylinders. They were, however, of little use.

After learning of Rählmann's hyperbolic lenses (see Berlin klinisch. Wochenschrift, 1880, and Klinisch. Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde, 1881) it seemed desirable they should be tried in this case, and accordingly it was found that,

1884, January 26.—The left eye likes 0.5 system B, and the right likes 1. system A.

January 28.—L. likes 0.5 system B., R. likes 0.5 system A.

January 29.—The patient likes these lenses for reading, after trying them at home. The glass for the L. being rather better than that for the R.

April 6.—Patient likes the glasses obtained, likes them especially for reading.

June.—Has broken one of his hyperbolic lenses and wishes it replaced. The vision with the convex cylinders is very nearly as when they were first prescribed in 1875.

CASE II.—1882, March 18.—Miss —, aged *circa* twenty years, has pronounced conical cornea of each eye; 'no opacity at apex noticed.

I advised, R. — 6.0 cyl. axis 15° . Vision of R. hardly greater than $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$, L. + 2. sph. \ominus — 4.0 cyl. axis 135° with vision nearly $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$.

April 5.—Glasses obtained are as prescribed, and the L. has with its glass $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$ +.

1884, February 1.—L. with hyperbolic lens 1. A. has $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$ +. 1. A. is better than 2. A. and than 0.5 A.; 1. A. is better than 0.5 B. and a little better than 1. B.

L. likes 1. A. better than the spherico-cyl. of March, 1882.

February 2.—R. with 2. A. has $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$. Both together, R. 2. A., L. 1. A., have about $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$. With the spherico-cyls. of 1882 patient has $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$.

April 16.—With the glasses imported has vision very nearly as with my test-glasses; has with both eyes together, and also each separately, vision $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{8}$, the vision depending however on the position of the glass before the eye.

This circumstance as regards the position of the glass was noticed by the other patient, who however considered the glasses as useful.

A CASE OF MYXÆDEMA WITH ATROPHY OF THE OPTIC NERVES.

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It is only quite recently that the disease known as myxædema has excited much attention; its pathology, beyond the fact that there is a deposit of mucine in the subcutaneous tissues, is still unknown; and even the symptoms observed in the cases reported have presented in some respects con-